

145th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
CALIFORNIA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Zoom Meeting
April 18, 2020

The meeting was opened by President Taylor at 9am. The invocation was given by Chaplain Louis V. Carlson, Jr. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Don Littlefield. The SAR Pledge was led by Craig Anderson.

Secretary Fred Schuster did the Roll Call (**Exhibit A**). A quorum was established. Terry Briggs chose to act as a delegate from his chapter rather than as Genealogist, voting as chapter president. He will vote as Chapter President.

Noted guests included; VPG Fosdyck, Genealogist General Jim Faulkinbury, National Trustee for CA Derek Brown, National Trustee for NV Charles Smith, Former President General Joseph W. Dooley and Executive Committee member John Dodd.

In order to explicitly authorize this Annual Meeting via electronic means, there were two bylaw proposal votes. Proposal #2 (**Exhibit B**) adds a new subsection (i) to Bylaw 8, Section 1, which authorizes state meetings to be conducted via the internet, and establishes the rules governing electronic meetings. This motion was passed unanimously. Proposal #3 (**Exhibit C**) adds a new subsection (j) to Bylaw 8, Section 1, which authorizes the Executive Committee to change the time and place of a state meeting in an emergency. This motion was passed unanimously.

The remaining of the By-Law will be discussed later.

Minutes of the April 2019 meeting were taken up. It was moved by Douglas Bergtholdt to approve. This was seconded by Don Littlefield. There was no discussion, the motion passed. The minutes for the Fall Board of Managers Meeting of November 2019 were asked for approval. Derek Brown moved to approve. This was seconded by Don Littlefield. The motion passed. “President Taylor addressed the membership by noting how we have entered a new era with technology based meetings. He noted the illness of Oliver Everett and asked for prayers for him and his wife. His illness is not virus related, having experienced several strokes. President Taylor thanked all for their support during his term as state president. He noted this pandemic has been a challenge to the society. There were three initiatives he tried to complete during his term. 1) a new membership booklet. 2) He wanted to define the chapter areas. And 3) have a FAQs section added to the state website. Again he thanked all for their support during his term as President.

OFFICER REPORTS

President Robert Taylor—In the book, noting he presented an additional Sea Cadet Award.

Executive Vice-President Donald Littlefield—In the Book.

Past President/National Trustee Derek Brown—Report is in the book. He noted that Sarah Dennison is leaving the society. The Bermuda Trip has been cancelled. They are continuing with plans for the Richmond Congress as well as contingency plans if it has to be cancelled.

Vice-President North Craig Anderson—In the book.

Vice-President South Brian Stephens—In the book.

Vice-President Membership Douglas Bergtholdt—In the Book.

Secretary Fred Schuster—In the Book. Thanked David Grinnell and others for their help and assistance this last year.

Treasurer Jim Klingler—In the Book.

Registrar Owen Stiles—In the Book.

Chancellor John Dodd—Not in the book. He did report, he was working on the issues with the meeting.

Genealogist Terry Briggs—Not in the book. Was emailed out (**Exhibit D**) Jim Faulkinbury as Genealogist General noted that work was being done on applications. Some are being done at home and some are worked on in the office. The digitalization of applications has been completed on 13 Volumes by Derek Kruger. He hopes to get funds for the on-line applications. Applications can be sent in at this time. They are working on them, albeit at a slower pace due to the situation.

Historian Jim Blauer had no report for the book. His reports are the minutes from each meeting. Both the April and November 2019 meeting minutes have been approved by the membership, and can be found on the state website.

Chaplain Lou Carlson—Report not in the book.

Surgeon Matthew Bowdish—Though it was reported not in the book, Historian Jim Blauer found it under Committees (**Exhibit E**) and not under Officer Reports.

Investment Funds Trustee Stephen Renouf noted the Trustee's Report is on pages 87-93 in the Book. He noted an almost \$20,000 decrease (for the 12-months through 2/29/2020) due to the \$17k SAR Foundation Donation and the Stock Market correction in February 2020. The trustees recommended a change in risk factor (1-low, 5-high) to make all funds risk factor 4 (except the unallocated fund, which would go to 3). This is recommended in an effort to increase returns on our investments, which are mostly long-term investments. The Morgan Stanley advisor would have the discretion to implement the change when he thinks it is most advantageous for us. It was moved by Don Littlefield and seconded by Rob Dickey that we do this. The motion passed with one nay.

Trustee John Dodd noted the need for higher returns.

Trustee Kent Gregory noted the change was needed as it will help when the Stock Market starts to climb back up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Color Guard—Mark Kramer reported on the Color Guard Awards. They are as follows;

Very Large - Orange County

Large - General Patton

Medium Large - Harbor

Medium Small - Delta

Small - no entries

SAR Color Guard Silver Medal Awards

Mark Torres - Orange County

Matthew Noell - Orange County

Larry Hansen - Orange County

Brian Merrel - Harbor

Colorguardsman of the year- Larry Hansen

Budget—Don Littlefield reported it is in the book.

By-Laws—John Dodd reported we would do the remainder later in the meeting.

California Compatriot—Don Littlefield reported they had done three issues and they are on the website.

CAR Liaison—Compatriot O’Neill reported it is not in the book.

California Activity Contest—Doug Bergtholdt reported there were 7 chapters that participated in the Contest. Winners were;

Small Chapter—Delta

Medium-Small Chapter—Redwood Empire

Medium Large—Kern

Large—Riverside

Very Large—Orange County

As the plaques from last year are still with the chapters, he will need to get them to place the names on them and get them to the appropriate chapters. Some may need new plaques as they have used up their space. Fred will work with Doug on the Activity Report. Doug noted his report is in the book. Tom Adams inquired about using some of the President General’s Contest items in the California Activity Contest. The Executive Committee will have to consider any changes to the activity Contest. Suggestions should be made to a member of that committee. Fred Schuster is working with Doug on making the contest more appealing to more chapters. Therefore getting more participation from other chapters that are not currently doing the contest.

Protocol—Mark Kramer had nothing to report.

Handbook Committee--Steve Renouf had no report.

DAR—Brian Stephen’s report is in the Book 32 Finders Forms were submitted in 2019. For 5 referrals that get approved by National they will receive the DAR Medal of Appreciation.

Ethics—Lou Carlson had no report.

Information Technology—Greg Hill will send his report to the secretary.

Medals & Awards—David Grinnell, report is not in the book.

Nominating Committee—Jim Fosdyck’s report is not in the book.

Congress—John Dodd requested this committee be taken off the list.

Public Relations—No report

Ancestors Research—Ray Raser reported it is not in the book.

Genealogist—Terry Briggs had nothing to add.

Spanish research—Paul Garcia had no report.

Flag Certificates—Report is in the book. There were 13 chapters who issued certificates last year. Harbor Chapter led the way with 50 Certificates issued and Redwood Empire presented 35 Flag Certificates. There were 2 Flag retirement certificates issued. One was issued by the General George Washington Chapter and one by the General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter. We issued enough certificates to receive the Furlong Award.

Wreaths Across America—Don Littlefield reported it was in the book,

Compliance—Chairman is ill, the report is not in the book. Report to be sent in.

Public Service—Brian Stephens reported it is in the book.

George Washington Endowment Fund (GWEF)—Jim Fosdyck reported (**Exhibit F**) we had 30 new members from California. Alabama had just 17.

250th Anniversary Committee—Lou Carlson reported he is working with the National Committee selecting celebrations for the chapters in 2021. He is using the Calendar created by Jim Blauer as a starting base.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Secretary Fred Schuster reported he had received and placed in the book reports from the following chapters; Central Coast, Coachella, Eagle, George Patton, George Washington, Gold County, Harbor, Kern, Monterey Bay, Mother Lode, Orange County, Redding, Redlands, Redwood Empire, Riverside, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Silicon Valley, San Diego, Sons of Liberty, South Coast, Thomas Jefferson and Yosemite. He received nothing from Delta or San Francisco. Bob Ebert reported that San Francisco is doing well. John Dodd encouraged chapters to include a financial report.

We recessed at 10:15am

We reconvened at 10:30am.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

There was no report from Chairman Dan McKelvie on the Youth Activities in 2019

Americanism Poster Contest—Dave Gilliard reported his report is not in the book, but will speak on it later.

Eagle Scout—Chairman Bill Nay's report is in the book. He reported we have 2 Robert E. Burt Awards and that Jim Blauer received the NOESA (NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award) for all the certificates he has done for the local Eagle Scouts in Orange County. These were from both SAR and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Bill plans to attend the Order of the Arrow Conference in August and help man the SAR booth.

Knight Essay Contest—Patrick Cecil had no report

ROTC/JROTC—Rob Dickey reported the recipient of the JROTC Enhancement Essay is Cadet SMSGT Megan Lange of Casa Roble Fundamental High School. Located in Orangevale, California. Sacramento SAR Chapter. She will become the recipient of our Enhancement Medal, Bar and Certificate with a \$1,000.00 scholarship check.

Spirit of America—Bob Taylor reported it is in the book.

Valley Forge—Bob Taylor reported it is in the book

Brochure Contest—Compatriot Kevin Tierney reported 53 Brochures were submitted.

Oration Contest—John Ferris' report is in the book. No entries.

Sea Cadets—Bill Nay's report is in the book. He has a proposal for later.

OLD BUSINESS

Audit Committee—Jim Klingler was asked to comment on this. He noted that he was the one being audited and he was not on the committee. There was no report submitted by the committee.

DAR Referrals—The DAR Award was discussed. SAR Medals are given to DAR members for providing SAR applicants who are subsequently approved. There was a motion (**Exhibit G**) by Brian Stephens for CASSAR to additionally give a \$100 cash award to the DAR chapter that provides the highest number of approved SAR applications (if greater than 5), and added to the DAR liaison budget, effective 2020 calendar year. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dues Collection--Genealogist General Jim Faulkinbury gave an update on the CASSAR dues collection proposal. He said since NSSAR has its own plan, he is dropping the state proposal. CASSAR is a test group for the NSSAR program.

CAR Request--President Taylor said the CAR Liaison needed to request a check to be sent to the CAR for the year.

Black Powder Insurance--Color Guard Commander Mark Kramer reported on liability and black powder insurance. He said NSSAR now has a national safety procedure (covering insurance and training requirements), and he commended John Dodd for working behind the scenes to get it established. Commander Kramer said he would get the national policy posted to the state website.

NEW BUSINESS

By-Laws—Proposal #1—Chancellor John Dodd presented Bylaws Proposal #1 (**Exhibit H**) to delete Bylaw 2, Section 6, which discusses the Ladies Auxiliary. He explained the Ladies Auxiliary is a separate legal entity that is not controlled by CASSAR, and it does not belong in the Bylaw regarding CASSAR chapters. There is potential legal liability for CASSAR if the Ladies Auxiliary decides to cancel their liability insurance. Some members thought we should recognize the Ladies Auxiliary in the CASSAR Bylaws, so a compromise amendment was offered to remove Section 6 from Bylaw 2, and create a new Bylaw 10 for the Ladies Auxiliary. The amendment to the original proposal was passed. The proposal as amended was then passed. Chancellor Dodd noted that the Ladies Auxiliary were short of funds for the liability insurance due to declining membership. He encouraged all CASSAR Compatriots to have their wives, daughters and other female relatives join the Ladies Auxiliary to support their vital work supporting CASSAR.

Sea Cadet Award—Bill Nay reported the committee met and approved the awarding a Sea Cadet of the Year Award to begin in 2021. It is a \$1,000 Award. This was seconded by Rob Dickey. Bill Nay requested a \$1700 increase in budget to handle award and any travel expenses needed to get the winner to our meeting to receive the award. John Dodd noted we need to make sure this award is consistent with the other Youth Awards we give out. Bill noted the \$1000 is consistent with the other awards. Treasurer Jim Klingler noted we give \$1970 to JROTC and Eagle winners, \$1770 to Essay and Oration winners and \$1200 to Poster and Brochure winners. It was also reported that we have \$1400 in a travel account set up in the budget for those that need financial assistance getting to and from the meeting to receive their award. The motion for \$1,000 was voted on and passed.

California Compatriot cost for printed copy. At the Fall Board of Managers meeting it was raised to \$45 as it would cost \$15.00 per copy to print and mail out. Afterwards it was determined that the cost would only be \$25.00 for the three issues. The Executive Board agreed to the reduction and it has to be voted on by the membership. It was moved (Did not recognize the voice and no name was given) and seconded. The motion to reduce the cost of printing and mailing three copies per year to \$25 passed. Jim Klingler has a list of those on printing list.

NEW BUSINESS

DAR meal was discussed. The question arising is whether the \$250 is just to cover the State Regent's meal or whether it covers other items as well.

We recessed at 11:17am

We reconvened at 11:27am

Reconciliation Reports was discussed. Fred noted the information was placed in the California Compatriot. The biggest problem he noted exists with Dual Members. Some he does not have records of. The Junior Membership is understated as the state and national figures are very different. Don Littlefield noted this very big topic and we need to move on.

Memorial Service—Lou Carlson was asked if he was ready to do a Memorial Service. He replied he was not. He suggested we do it in the Fall. It was noted that CASSAR President Stan Henderson had passed away. An obituary is to be run in the Compatriot. His wife Linda passed away just a short time before he did. Information on both is to be sent to the California Compatriot. It was noted member Dale Ritter was 100 years old when he passed away around the same time as President Henderson. Chaplain Carlson noted he had 15 members on the list for the service that we will defer until the Fall Board of Managers Meeting.

AWARDS

Youth Awards

Americanism Poster Contest—David Gilliard reported he had 5 entries in this contest First Place went to Sacramento (Poster A) with a \$350 award. Second Place went to Gold Country (Poster D) with a \$250 award. Third Place went to Orange County (Poster B) with a \$150 award. Fourth Place went to Harbor (Poster C) with a \$100 award. Honorable Mention went to San Diego (Poster E) with a \$75 award. There are no ribbons this year as all the shops are closed down from the pandemic. Posters will be posted on the state website so members can view them.

Brochure Contest—Kevin Tierney reported they had 53 Brochures sent in by four chapters. Medallions and checks will be sent to the chapter Chairmen for presentation to the winners. First Place Orange County (Brochure D) receives \$400. Second Place Sacramento (Poster C) receives \$300. They sent in 33 brochures. Third Place Mother Lode (Brochure B) receives \$200. Fourth Place Gold Country (Brochure A) receives \$100.

Knight Essay Contest—Patrick Cecil was not available. Compatriot Perkins from the Sons of Liberty Chapter reported that their entry was the state winner. Anaida Haroutonian wrote her essay on “Building Blocks—Lights, Camera, Action”. There is a \$1000 award. They need the check to present to the winner. President Taylor will check with Patrick on the medallion presented from the state.

Oration Contest—John Ferris reported there were no entries this year.

Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest—Bill Nay reported that Michael McPhie from the Orange County Chapter entry was the state winner. He showed photos of Michael and of his receiving the chapter Award at the Orange County meeting. He noted the presenter in the chapter photo was Compatriot Hans Hunt who is one of this year’s Robert E. Burt Award recipients. Bill reported he has the check for \$1000 and is waiting to get the sculpture engraved. He is also waiting to hear on the Richmond Congress. He has a room and plans to attend the Youth Awards Luncheon if the Congress is held. An inquiry was made on the National Award. Bill noted that Eagle Scout Michael McPhie will receive \$10,000 from the SAR as the National Winner of this contest.

ROTC/JROTC—Rob Dickey reported they had four submittals but 2 were disqualified. There was only a 2 point difference between the Orange County and Sacramento entries. Sacramento took first place with Orange County second. Derek Brown will check with the Ladies Auxiliary on checks for the Youth winners.

Robert E. Burt Scouting Volunteer Award—Bill nay reported that Hans Hunt from Orange County and William Stewart Crew from Central Coast are two to receive this award this year. He noted the state is allowed to give out 4 per year so if there are any other SAR scouters out there, get their applications in and see if we can fill our quota for the year.

Public Service Awards—Don Littlefield reported there were four this year (**Exhibit I**). There were three heroism Awards and one Law Enforcement award. Dell Hanson announced that Deputy Brian Bell of the Sacramento County's Sheriff's Department, Officer Scott Farnsworth and Officer Chris Cobb of the West Sacramento Police Department received the Heroism Award. Detective Louis Cameron of the West Sacramento Police Department was presented with the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal & Certificate.

Flag Certificates— There were enough chapters and the state issuing Flag Certificates that we will receive the Furlong Award at Congress.

Richard F. Locke Award for highest percentage of growth 2018-2019. Small Chapter was Yosemite. Small to medium chapter there was no award. Medium to Large Chapter—Kern. Large Chapter--General George S. Patton, Jr. Very Large Chapter--Sacramento. There will be a check and certificate sent to each of the winning chapters.

DAR Referral winner is Linda Adams with 21 referrals for the Kern chapter.

Best Chapter Activity Contest—Doug Bergtholdt gave this report earlier. Just need to get the plaques to be labeled with the new winners for 2019 and get them to the winning chapters.

Presidential Awards—President Bob Taylor gave out the following awards (**Exhibit J**);

Bronze Good Citizenship Award went to Un Hui Yi Fosdyck.

Lydia Darragh Award went to Darian Taylor

Daughters of Liberty Award went to Anne Adams. Citation read:

Anne-Doerte Epstude Adams, wife of Tom Adams (Mother Lode Chapter), attended the 2008 Congress in Sacramento and then again in 2010 in Cleveland when she joined the National Ladies Auxiliary. Anne joined the California Ladies Auxiliary at the 2011 CASSAR Fall Meeting in San Diego. Since 2010, Anne attended every Congress except 2012 in Phoenix and 2018 in Houston because Tom was ill. That's a total of 8 Congresses Anne has attended. Anne participated in the Ladies activities at 7 National Leadership Conferences in Louisville. She also participated in the California Ladies activities at 12 CASSAR Meetings. That is a remarkable record and one that deserves high recognition by the CASSAR.

Over the eight years she has actively participated in SAR activities, Anne has knitted and donated half a dozen afghans, a dozen scarfs and maybe as many as 20 simple wrap-around fuzzy scarfs.

Roger Sherman Silver Medal went to Don Littlefield, Fred Schuster, Jim Klingler and Jim Fosdyck.

Distinguish Service Medal went to Kent Gregory.

Patriot Medal went to Dan McKelvie, Bill Nay and Ernest McCullough.

We recessed at 12:22 pm.

We reconvened at 12:30pm.

On-Line Merit Badges—Bill Nay spoke on his on-line classes for the scouts to earn the Genealogy(April 12) and American Heritage (April 26) Merit badges. These are power point programs for the scouts to learn from and filling the requirements in the Merit badge book. He noted that if these work out well he will do one on the Law Merit badge. These three Merit Badges are one of the items National takes a close look at when selecting the winner of the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest.

Congress Report—John Dodd reported the Executive Committee meets every Friday. There will be an electronic Trustee Meeting on May 2nd. Registration for Congress begin mid-May. There is a \$290,000 investment in the hotel contract we have for the Congress. The Executive Committee will meet in early June to discuss options for conducting the Congress.

If we have the Congress it has been noted that Construction at the hotel is behind. Business will need to be done all in one day. This will include; nominations from the floor, Rules for Congress require nominees to speak, the election of officers, reports, and awards to be announced.

The Trustees Meeting will be a one day meeting in Louisville to determine if we are going to go ahead with the Congress. This will be in early June.

Secretary Fred Schuster needs a list of delegates so they can have their voting credentials for Congress. He will need this by June 12th. There are 32 spaces for our California society.

Election of State Officers—Taken from the nominating Committee report.

President—Don Littlefield

Executive Vice-President—Brian Stephens

Vice-President North--Craig Anderson

Vice-President South Jim Klingler

Vice-President Membership—Douglas Bergtholdt

Secretary—Fred Schuster

Treasurer—John Ferris

Registrar—Owen Stiles

Chancellor—John Dodd

Genealogist—Terry Briggs

Historian—Jim Blauer

Chaplain--Lou Carlson

Surgeon—Matthew Bowdish

Investment Fund Trustee—Stephen Renouf (2020-2023)

Note John Dodd and Kent Gregory are serving unexpired terms and are not up for reelection at this time.

National Trustee—Bob Taylor

Alternate National Trustee—Don Littlefield

Jim Fosdyck called for any **nominations** from the floor. Hearing none a vote was taken and the slate was **elected**.

Jim Fosdyck then **installed** all the above elected officers except the President.

Jim Faulkinbury then **installed** Don Littlefield as our new state President. Don noted he had received the gavel and his wife Mary Ann placed the ribbon around his neck.

President Littlefield gave his remarks. He said he would do his very best for benefit and longevity of the California Society. He recognized Tom Chilton of the Sacramento Chapter, who brought Don into the SAR in 2007, and served as his mentor. President Littlefield said he was looking forward to working with the great team of CASSAR Officers in 2020. He gave special thanks to VP North Craig Anderson for his outstanding support this past year and Chancellor John Dodd for his thoughtful guidance and counsel relating to The Murieta Inn cancellation and change in meeting format. He also thanked Secretary Fred Schuster for his patience and efforts to improve the secretary records. He said all officers, chairmen and active members are critical to the continued success of the California Society, and he pledged to do whatever it takes to keep them involved and supported. He will work on improving communication across the board. He

thanked the Sacramento Chapter members who were working on the cancelled meeting in Rancho Murieta. He closed by stating that he was looking forward to meeting in person with everyone in Rohnert Park at the Fall BOM. He said we are not out of the [COVID-19] woods yet and we may still have to navigate around obstacles in how we do business. If anyone needs anything, he said not to hesitate to contact him. Chaplain Lou Carlson thanked Don Littlefield for helping to solve the ethics issue at the Sacramento Chapter. He had no doubt that Don would be very successful despite the current Wuhan virus pandemic, and would do an amazing job as President. Chaplain Carlson said he was praying for President Littlefield and his CASSAR team. He hopes that we will be able to hold our **Fall Board of Managers meeting** in November (**Exhibit K**). It is currently scheduled for November 13-14 at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Sonoma Wine Country in Rohnert Park, CA, Room rate will be \$139/night plus taxes and fees.

Brian Stephens spoke on the **146th Annual Membership Meeting** on April 15-18, 2021 Meeting at the Mission Inn in Riverside (**Exhibit L**). It will be \$159/night.

The Ladies Auxiliary drawing was held. It was won by Judy Shaw.
The Meeting was recessed at 12:07pm.

WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING

The 130th Western District meeting was called to order by Vice-President General of the Western District Jim Fosdyck at 12:07pm. Charles Smith of the Nevada Society was in attendance, but had no comments for the meeting.

VPG Fosdyck noted he attended the Hawai'i State Meeting. They were also able to attend a Hawai'i DAR meeting. The website has been enhanced. This was thanks to the assistance from Greg Hill, Steve Renouf, Charles Smith, Don Hotchkiss (NV Society President) and Rob Moore (HI Society President). There are links to both the Nevada and Hawai'i sites. Stephen Renouf added a considerable amount of history with names and photos of the past VPGs of the district.

VPG Fosdyck gave out several awards in 2020. A certificate of Appreciation was given to Jim Blauer for his calligraphy work on certificates. Un Hui Yi (CA) received the Daughters of Liberty Medal & Certificate. The Distinguished Service Certificate went to Steve Renouf (CA). Meritorious Service Medal & Certificate went to Greg Hill (CA), Donald Hotchkiss, Jr. (NV), and Charles Smith (NV). The Silver Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate were presented to Lt. Col. M. Strauss Scantlin and Col. Robert "Rob" Moore. The SAR Medal of Appreciation (DAR) was presented to Janet Thompson (NV DAR) and Jane Mann (HI DAR). The Martha Washington Medal was presented to Phyllis Smith (NV) and Un Hui Yi (CA). The Lydia Darragh Medal & Certificate was presented to Un Hui Yi

It was announced that Charles Smith has been nominated as the next VPG of the Western District.

Bill Nay challenged the Western District to expand the Sea Cadet Program to Hawai'i and Nevada. Rob Dickey noted that they have a Sea Cadet program at Pearl Harbor in Hawai'i. Charles Smith reported they were already in the process of setting up the Sea Cadet Program at the Signers Chapter with a known candidate from the Las Vegas Sea Cadets.

The Meeting of the Western District was adjourned at 12:15pm

The CASSAR meeting was reconvened at 12:15PM
The Benediction was given by Lou Carlson.
The Recessional was led by Brian Stephens

The 145th Annual Membership Meeting of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted
November 13, 2020

James F. Blauer
State Historian

On April 20, 2020, Immediate Past President Robert Taylor sent out his parting thoughts. See below;

I want to take a moment to express my thanks to all of you for bestowing your trust in me by electing me president of this society for 2019-2020! It has been the culmination of my fondest desires and expectations, and will leave me with many fond memories of wonderful events and compatriots. The reins of leadership are now in the hands of my eminently qualified successor, Don Littlefield, who will provide superior leadership for our Society. I want to thank those who have supported me through this year now past. First, I have been fortunate in being backed by an outstanding executive board, without whom I could not have functioned, and my heart-felt thanks goes to each one of you. My committee chairs have also performed well and with due-diligence, for which I am grateful. We were blessed to fill our Spanish Liaison slot, giving us a full board, and my thanks to VPG Western District Jim Fosdyck for providing me potential candidates as openings for this and other committees occurred! As always, our ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary have supported us well with the grace and positive attitudes only they can provide, and I thank them for their 150% support.

While the CASSAR 144th Spring meeting was a highlight, providing as it did my entrance to this position, the absolute highlight of the year was the national congress held in Costa Mesa this past July, being the epitome of perfection in many ways as so many have told me. My thanks to John Dodd, Steve Renouf, Kent Gregory and so many others who worked hard and diligently to make it the successful event it was.

Finally, I want to thank you, the rank-and-file of the Society for your continued efforts in supporting the aims of the Sons of the American Revolution. As you participate at the chapter level, as committee members or as color guardsmen, you publicly demonstrate your faith in the foundational principals upon which this nation was formed and commemorate the memory of your patriot ancestors in tangible ways! My desire and hope is that our society will continue to benefit by you and your efforts to immortalize our society's ideals and outreach!

Again, my sincere thanks to one and all!

Fondly,
Robert Taylor